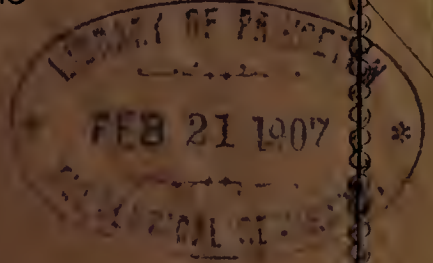


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RULES

FOR



INTER-MISSION DISCIPLINE

IN THE

PANJĀB.



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1863.

INTER-MISSION DISCIPLINE.



The Missionary Conference which closed its sessions at Lahore on the 2nd of January, 1863, appointed a committee to devise a scheme of Inter-Mission Discipline,—with a view to prevent collision between different missions, and to reconcile any differences that might unhappily arise among them.

This committee, consisting of T. D. Forsyth, and Edward Prinsep, Esquires, and the Rev. Messrs R. Bruce, J. Newton, A. Gordon, R. Paterson, and Goloknáth, met, (with the exception of Mr. Forsyth, who was unable to attend,) on the 3rd of January; and taking the expressed sentiments of the Conference for their guide, agreed upon the following points:—

I. *In relation to the organization and duties of a Permanent Committee; viz.*

1. That there should be a committee, called “The Committee of Reference on Inter-Mission Discipline,” made up of representatives of the different missions in the Pan-

jáb,—one from each,—with the addition of two European lay members, and a representative of the Native brethren.

2. That this committee should fill its own vacancies— with the approval of the missions most directly concerned.

3. That meetings should be held in March and October,— provided there was business to call for them ; three members being sufficient to make a quorum.

4. That at other seasons of the year, business should be transacted, as far as possible, by circular; while yet, in cases of necessity, the Chairman, with the concurrence of two other members, should have power at any time to convene the Committee; provided, however, that one month's notice to that effect should always be given.

II. *In relation to the principles which ought to govern Inter-Mission Discipline ; viz.*

1. That no agent should be appointed, or school established, by one Mission, in a station pre-occupied by another, unless the measure is approved by both parties.

2. That no member of any one mission should, directly or indirectly, hold out any inducements to attach to himself a person who is in the service of any other mission.

3. That when a person connected with one mission expresses a wish to join another, that mission should throw no obstacle in the way, beyond simple advice.

4. When a person connected with one mission proposes to join another, the application should not be admitted, till it is ascertained by correspondence between the two missions, that there is no valid objection to the measure ; and if the said missions cannot agree as to what objections

ought to be considered valid, the case should be held in abeyance, till the Committee of Reference has pronounced upon it.

5. That no missionary ought to receive to the communion of his church, or to employ, or support, a church member under the discipline of another missionary body, until he corresponds on the subject with the members of that mission, and obtains their consent; or, if such consent is refused, till the Committee of Reference express an opinion in favour of it: provided, however, that censure, growing out of the peculiar denominational views of any mission, and involving nothing more, should constitute no bar, at any time, to a person's being received into communion, or being employed, by any other mission.

6. That no cases of difference referred to the Committee should be entertained, until the parties have endeavoured to come to a mutual agreement.

7. That in order to remove as far as possible, from the minds of native missionary agents, all grounds of dissatisfaction in relation to salary, all missions similarly situated ought to adopt a uniform scale of attainments and salaries for such agents: except schoolmasters,—to whom such a rule could not easily be applied.

The following resolutions also were adopted; viz.

(1.) That the Committee of Reference, (with the approval of the missions concerned,) consist, in the first instance, of the individuals who compose the preliminary committee; except that the name of Mr. Keene be substituted for that of Mr. Bruce. The Committee will then stand thus:—

Representatives of the Missions :

The Rev. Messrs W. Keene, A. Gordon, R. Paterson,
and J. Newton.

Laymen :

T. D. Forsyth, and Edward Prinsep, Esquires.

Representative of the Native Brethren :

The Rev. Goloknáth.

(2.) That Mr. Forsyth be the chairman, and Mr. Newton
the secretary of the Committee.

The foregoing rules, together with the following scale of attainments and pay, drawn up, according to the principle set forth in II. 7. above, were afterwards submitted to the missionary bodies of the Panjáb, represented in the Conference, viz. the Church of England Mission, the American Presbyterian Mission, the American United Presbyterian Mission, and the Mission of the Church of Scotland ; and by them formally and unanimously agreed to.

SCALE OF ATTAINMENTS.

NOTE. This scale is the result of compromise. It has relation to intellectual attainments only ; spiritual qualifications and natural abilities being always presupposed as *fundamental*.

I. READERS.

First Grade. 1. Ability to read intelligently, and intelligibly, in one of the vernaculars.

2. A fair knowledge of the text, (in a vernacular,) and the matter, of (i) The Gospels and Acts, (ii) Genesis, and Exodus—to Chapter 20th, inclusive.

Second Grade. In addition to the above,

1. A general knowledge of all that remains of Scripture History.
2. *Jámi' ul Faráiz*, (The Whole Duty of Man,) or some equivalent.
3. Ability to write a letter, or journal.

II. CATECHISTS.

First Grade. In addition to the above,

1. Grammar of some vernacular.
2. A good knowledge of the argument in the Epistle to the Romans.
3. The text and matter of 1 Timothy, and 1 Peter.
4. Some Knowledge of the Psalms.
5. The *Mizán ul Haqq*, *Tariq ul Hayát*, *Mat Parikshá*, *Dín i Haqq kí Tahqíq*, or equivalents.
6. The art of catechizing.

Second Grade. In addition to the above,

1. A general knowledge of the books of the prophets: Isaiah to Malachi.
2. A fair acquaintance with the remaining Epistles.

3. A pretty full outline of Theology; as in *Ilm i Iláhi ke Usúl*, by Kshwarí Dás; or *Dín i Haqq*, (translation of Fisher, by Mr. Mather.)
4. An outline of Church History; as that by Mr. Muir.
5. A fair knowledge of the Muhammadan and Hindú systems of religion, as taught by themselves; together with the arguments necessary for their refutation.

NOTE. Much of this is to be learned in the *first grade*; the advance is mainly in the class of books to be read,—being purely native; viz.

- i. On Muhammadanism, the text-book might be the *Qurán*.
- ii. On Hinduism, the *Bhagwatgítá*.
- iii. For those in the Panjáb, a knowledge of Sikhism should be added; (or substituted for Hinduism;) and for this the text-book might be Gurú Govind Singh's *Rahitnáma*.

III. PREACHERS.

First Grade. Deacons and Licentiates.

Second Grade. Presbyters.

NOTE. These being purely Ecclesiastical offices, the Missions, of course, can have nothing to say in reference to the attainments that should be required of those who fill them.

SCALE OF SALARIES.

| | | <i>Rupees per Mensem.</i> | | | | |
|------------------------------|-------------------------|----------------------------------|-------------------------------|------------------------------------|----------------------------------|--|
| OFFICES. | For a single man. | Addition- al for his wife. | For each child under 7. | For each child from 7 to 15. | For each child from 15 to 18. | |
| Scripture Reader, 1st Grade. | 8 | 4 | 1 | $1\frac{1}{2}$ | 2 | |
| Do. 2nd Grade. | 10 | 5 | $1\frac{1}{2}$ | 2 | $2\frac{1}{2}$ | |
| Catechist, 1st Grade. | 12 | 6 | 2 | $2\frac{1}{2}$ | 3 | |
| Do. 2nd Grade. | 16 | 8 | $2\frac{1}{2}$ | 3 | 4 | |
| Preacher, 1st Grade. | 25 | 12 | 4 | 5 | 6 | |
| Do. 2nd Grade. | 40 | 20 | 6 | 8 | 10 | |

